

PATENTDocket No.: 041-1790B**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

TAKAYUKI SUGAHARA

Official

Serial No. 09/469,499

Filed: December 22, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2713

Examiner: Y. Lee

For: **METHOD OF PROTECTION OF DATA REPRODUCTION, AND REPRODUCTION
APPARATUS PROVIDING PROTECTION OF DATA REPRODUCTION**

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Further to the Election made in the paper filed July 26, 2000, applicant submits the following **REVISED ELECTION** in response to a telephone conference with the Examiner.

During the conference, the Examiner stated that the election appeared erroneous in view of reference in the claims to data which can be modified by a user, while the elected species, shown in the embodiment of Fig. 1, does not appear to provide for such modification.

The present revised election moots the assertion of error by revising the election. Accordingly, in order to provide a full response to the Election Requirement mailed June 26, 2000, applicant hereby elects the embodiment of the invention identified in the Requirement as **Species V** - as illustrated in **Figs 14-16**.

As is apparent from Fig. 15, the elected embodiment provides "a switch which can

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be operated by the person who is in charge of the reproduction apparatus, such that the switch can be used to select from a plurality of different relationship patterns, so that the degree of reproduction protection can be flexibly determined by that person."

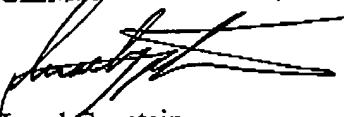
This facet of the invention is disclosed at lines 4-9 of page 46 of the specification, and is illustrated by the severity modification circuit 30 and the severity modification setting switch 31 shown in Fig. 15.

As previously noted in the paper filed July 26, 2000, all of the claims are readable on the elected species. Indeed, each of the claims refers to "second set data [which] can be modified by said user".

It is accordingly submitted that the present election corrects an inadvertent error in the prior response.

Early examination of the application on the merits is requested.

Very truly yours,
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, on the date shown below.

August 2, 2000


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